

907 DAMPPROOFING AND WATERPROOFING CONCRETE SURFACES

There is a tendency to be careless with dampproofing and waterproofing because they will be buried and it is assumed that appearance is not important. Appearance is important because creases, spotty sealant coverage, loose ends, uneven appearance and other visual blemishes may indicate defects and potentially reduce the service life of the structure.

Among the most important things to watch for are a dry surface before treatment and a smooth coverage of the waterproofing coating. A dry surface, besides increasing the adhesions of the product and reduces the possibility of vapor buildup under the coating which can cause a rupture breaking the water seal. Surface depressions and high spots in the waterproofing are to be avoided because they create weak areas that can be easily broken during backfilling or settlement. If the surface being treated becomes wet from rain or for any other reason, it must be dried completely before allowing the work to proceed.

Where primer is specified, the primer must be applied uniformly and completely over the surface. When a thickness of dampproofing coating is specified. The inspection records should show that the thickness was measured and what were the results.

Treatment of joints, with or without fabric, should be watched closely as they are often the weakest part of the treatment.

Application rates of sealant are to be checked and recorded.

As a final precaution, don't destroy the usefulness of the treatment by allowing careless backfilling methods that will tear, punch holes, or scrape off the fabric and sealant.